



**HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
CORPORATION OF HAWAII**

LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR

NEWS RELEASE

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**YOUTH GROUP AWARDED GRANTS TO PROVIDE
COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES AT BIG ISLAND HOUSING PROJECT**

KAILUA-KONA – A Big Island youth group received a total of \$1,900 in grants from the Hawai'i Community Foundation's Moe Bettah Together and the Paulama Ini O'pio programs to address community issues and provide family activities in their Ka Hale Kahaluu housing project in Kona.

"It is great to see the youth of Ka Hale Kahaluu take such an initiative in their community," said Stephanie Aveiro, executive director of the Housing and Community Development Corporation of Hawaii. "We're very proud of the work they have accomplished."

The Ka Hale Kahaluu Youth Group is led by President Rochelle Rodrigues with the support of Ka Hale Kahaluu Resident Association President Rodelle Smith.

Funds from the Paulama Ini O'pio Program have been used to provide activities such as family bingo, movie night, and a youth dance and Halloween celebration. The Moe Bettah Together Program grant will provide supplies needed to develop a "Family Picnic Grounds." Group members have already begun landscaping for the project, have been granted approval from the state building inspector for the laying of the path foundation, and are awaiting the arrival of materials.

The group goals include addressing community issues and developing activities for families as well as other youth. They have contributed to increasing awareness for child and drug abuse, aided in community security through patrol walks and had their hand in repairs by securing benches at the local bus stop.

Ka Hale Kahaluu is a federally-assisted housing project in Kailua-Kona run by the state Housing and Community Development Corporation of Hawaii.

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